Consumer Guidelines for Purchasing CNG Vehicles

When considering the purchase of or conversion to a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) vehicle, a consumer should request the following from the auto dealer or converter:

1) The US EPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency) OR CARB (California Air Resources Board) Conversion Certificate of Conformity / Compliance Documentation for the vehicle (including make, model, year, and engine type). The name of the kit manufacturer (if a conversion) must be listed on the certificate and on a label displayed in the engine compartment once the kit is installed.

2) Confirmation that the converter employs a CSA certified tank inspector to verify the safety of the installation (if a conversion). The City will require a CSA Certificate of Inspection before licensee can present for inspection at the Public Vehicle Inspection Facility. Additionally, CSA certification needs to be performed every 3 years or 36,000 miles once the vehicle is in service. Label of CSA certified tank inspection date must also be posted in the vehicle.

Once you have received your vehicle, use this checklist to confirm the proper conversion of your CNG vehicle:

☐ There is NO “natural gas” odor in the vicinity of the vehicle.

☐ *Natural Gas Storage Cylinders*:
   a) Are protected with a means to prevent damage due to road hazards.
   b) Are not in direct contact with a cover or shield.
   c) Are installed not less than the minimum road clearance of the vehicle when loaded to its gross vehicle weight rating. Minimum road clearance for any CNG component is at least 7 inches (if vehicle wheel base is <127 inches) or at least 9 inches (if vehicle wheel base is >127 inches).
   d) Are marked “CNG” with expiration date shown.
   e) Do not move when a force is applied in any and all directions.
   f) Are mounted more than 8 inches from the exhaust system or are shielded from heat.
   g) Have no signs of exposure to fire, involvement in an accident, or impact damage.

☐ Valves are protected using vehicle structure, valve protectors, or metal shield.

☐ All pressure relief devices are vented outside of the vehicle and not into the wheel well and should not allow foreign objects into the vent line.

☐ The label visibly displayed in the engine compartment includes:
   a) Identification as a CNG-fueled vehicle
   b) System service pressure
   c) Installer’s name or company
   d) Fuel container life expiration date
   e) Total container water volume in gallons or liters
   f) Date by which fuel containers are to be inspected

☐ The label visibly displayed at the fueling connection receptacle includes:
   a) Identification as a CNG-fueled vehicle
   b) System working pressure
   c) Fuel container life expiration date
   d) Date by which fuel containers are to be inspected

☐ A diamond shaped label marked “CNG” is attached on an exterior vertical surface on the lower right of the vehicle.

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